

House State & Local Government Committee Amendment No. 1
As amended

Amendment No. 1 to SB1295

Ketron
Signature of Sponsor

FILED
Date _____
Time _____
Clerk _____
Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1295

House Bill No. 620*

by deleting all language following the enacting clause, and by substituting instead the following language:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 24, is amended by adding Sections 2 through 4 of this act as a new part.

SECTION 2. With respect to any fire station constructed after the effective date of this act each municipal or county fire department, and each volunteer fire department or company is encouraged to have separate restroom facilities, showers and locker rooms for men and women.

SECTION 3.

(a) Each municipal or county fire department, and each volunteer fire department or company, are urged to develop plans which, to the greatest extent possible, will create gender friendly conditions in existing facilities.

(b) The purpose of the plans is to identify which stations could be upgraded to accomplish a gender-friendly facility and identify which stations cannot be made gender-friendly due to space constraints, historical significance of the station, or other documented reasons why this could not be accomplished.

(c) Such plans, once developed, shall be made available upon request by the commission on firefighting personnel standards and education and from interested persons in the community.

SECTION 4. Existing facilities which cannot be upgraded to gender-friendly stations should be made gender-friendly to the greatest extent possible by:

(1) Using empty or unused rooms in the station; in no event shall existing rooms, including but not limited to bedrooms, weight rooms, T.V. rooms, or other

rooms utilized by the firefighters for relaxation or rest, be taken or redesignated for purposes of complying with this act;

(2) With regard to restrooms, shower rooms or locker rooms, using a male/female flip sign with locks on the door when the room is being utilized by either a male or female; no restroom, shower room or locker room which is designated specifically for male or female may be used at anytime by the opposite sex;

(3) With respect to sleeping arrangements created for the purpose of complying with this act, if it is not possible to have individual sleeping quarters, privacy for everyone shall be provided by installing individual cubicles in a room or rooms designated for sleeping with a curtain or screen blocking the entrance to each individual cubicle. Each such cubicle shall contain at least a bed, desk, lamp and a sufficient number of lockers to provide each firefighter on a shift a designated, private area to rest or sleep.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.